UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/184
S/1996/500
28 June 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 94 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES OF CROATIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 28 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to your report to the Security Council of 26 June 1996 on the reintegration authority in Croatia of the United Nations Transitional Administration in Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) (S/1996/472).

My Government has received the report very favourably. It supports your recommendation outlined in paragraph 44, and pledges its continued commitment to the successful implementation of the entire UNTAES mandate within the time period envisioned in Security Council resolution 1037 (1996).

In regard to the question of clarification of the amnesty law mentioned in paragraph 7, my Government issued on 27 June 1996 a list of 811 persons who will not be protected by the said amnesty law.

My Government should also like to clarify the meaning of the second sentence in paragraph 45, which reads as follows: "Several thousand displaced Croats are waiting to go back to their homes in the region." According to the 1991 official census, the region was home to 193,538 Croatian citizens prior to the war; 125,510 of non-Serb ethnic background and 68,028 of Serb ethnic background. Since then almost all of the non-Serb Croatian citizens have been ethnically cleansed from the region, and thousands have been killed. The Government presently cares for 76,669 registered displaced non-Serbs from the region. In addition, a significant number of non-Serbs from the region are

* A/51/50.

refugees in other countries. Almost all of these displaced persons and refugees have expressed through their elected representatives the intention to return to their homes in the region as soon as possible. Therefore, my Government interprets this sentence to mean that close to 100,000 non-Serb displaced persons and refugees are waiting to go back to their homes in the region.

May I request your kind assistance in circulating the present letter as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under item 94 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative